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REMARKS

This Amendment is prepared in response to the final Office action mailed on 7 November 2006 (Paper No. 20061101). Upon entry of this amendment, claims 12, 14-19, 24 and 26 will be pending. Applicant has canceled claims 1, 4, 5, 7-11, 20-22 and 25 without prejudice or disclaimer as to their subject matter by this amendment and has amended claim 26 by this amendment.

Prior Art Claim Rejections

In Paper No. 20061101, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 4-5, 8-9, 20 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Asano *et al.* (US 6,008,582). Applicant has canceled these claims by this amendment making this rejection moot.

In Paper No. 20061101, the Examiner also rejected claims 1, 15-16 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Kato *et al.* (US 6,670,757). Applicant has the following comments.

Regarding claims 1 and 22, Applicant has canceled these claims by this amendment making their rejection moot.

Regarding Applicant's independent claim 15, Applicant claims, "wherein grooves are formed in distal ends of the second barrier rib members into which the address electrodes

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are inserted". In Paper No. 20061101, the Examiner never addressed this limitation of Applicant's claim 15 making Paper No. 20061101 incomplete.

Applicant submits that this language was added to claim 15 by Applicant on August 14, 2006. Applicant submits that this language is similar to the language deemed to be allowable by the Examiner on Page 8 of Paper No. 20061101. Applicant submits that this is inconsistent treatment of the claims as claims 12 and 26 claim similar language and are deemed allowable by virtue of the Examiner's reasoning on Page 8 of Paper No. 20061101.

Furthermore, Applicant had a telephone conversation with the Examiner on December 15, 2006 explaining this problem. Instead of issuing a new Office action or producing an Interview Summary, Examiner Karabi Guharay merely instructed Applicant to explain the situation in the Remarks in an amendment in response to the Final Office action of Paper No. 20061101.

Regarding claim 26, the Examiner deemed, on Page 8 of Paper No. 20061101, that claim 26 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant is relying on this by this amendment and has amended claim 26 by this amendment to include the subject matter of claim 1 to make claim 26 allowed.


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In view of the above, it is submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are patentable over the cited references, taken either alone or combination and accordingly should now be in a conditions suitable for allowance.

No other issues remaining, reconsideration and favorable action upon all of the claims now present in the application is respectfully requested.

No fee is incurred by this Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,


Robert E. Bushnell,
Attorney for the Applicant
Registration No.: 27,774

1522 "K" Street N.W., Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 408-9040

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